

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing player verification for a remote gaming terminal, the method comprising:

providing one or more gaming events ~~at~~ from one or more servers to said remote gaming terminal via a first communication link;

establishing one or more ~~acceptable~~ criteria for verifying the identity or eligibility of a player, wherein said one or more ~~acceptable~~ criteria includes an appropriate age of said player;

receiving a request ~~by a specific player at~~ from said remote gaming terminal to participate in at least one particular gaming event selected from said one or more gaming events;

determining that player verification is required;

receiving, at said one or more servers, when it is determined that player verification is required, personal information regarding a specific player from a verification device, wherein said verification device is independent from said remote gaming terminal, wherein said personal information is received via a second communication link during or immediately prior to the play of a wager-based game at said remote gaming terminal, wherein said second communication link uses a different communication medium than said first communication link;

transmitting said personal information from said one or more servers to a player authentication center operated by a third party, said third party being separate from a provider of said one or more gaming events;

receiving verification at said one or more servers from said player authentication center when said personal information regarding said specific player is acceptable; and

permitting, when said personal information is verified, said at least one particular gaming event to commence or continue on said remote gaming terminal.

~~obtaining, when it is determined that player verification is required, with a verification device independent from the remote gaming terminal, personal information regarding said specific player from said specific player via a second communication link during or immediately prior to the play of a wager-based game at said remote gaming terminal, said second communication link being different from said first communication link;~~

~~verifying, using a player authentication center operated by a third party, the third party being separate from a provider of the one or more gaming events, that said personal information~~

~~regarding said specific player is adequate according to at least one of said one or more acceptable criteria; and~~

~~permitting said at least one particular gaming event to commence or continue.~~

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said remote gaming terminal comprises a gaming machine.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including the step of:
associating said request with a particular player account.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further including the subsequently repeated steps of:

receiving, at said one or more servers, personal information regarding said specific player from said verification device, wherein said personal information is received via said second communication link;

transmitting said personal information from said one or more servers to said player authentication center;

receiving verification at said one or more servers from said player authentication center when said personal information regarding said specific player is acceptable; and

permitting, when said personal information is verified, said at least one particular gaming event to continue on said remote gaming terminal.

~~obtaining personal information regarding said specific player from said specific player via said second communication link;~~

~~verifying that said personal information regarding said specific player is adequate according to at least one of said one or more acceptable criteria; and~~

~~permitting said at least one particular gaming event to continue.~~

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said subsequently repeated steps are continuously performed.
9. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said subsequently repeated steps are performed at regular periodic intervals.
10. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said subsequently repeated steps are performed at random intervals.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said personal information regarding said specific player comprises one or more visual images of the specific player.
12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein at least one of said one or more visual images of the specific player is a digitized picture.
13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein at least one of said one or more visual images of the specific player is a visual image created after said receiving said request from said remote gaming terminal step.
14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein at least one of said one or more visual images of the specific player is a live visual image.
15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said personal information regarding said specific player comprises a current geographic location of the specific player.
16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein said current geographic location of the specific player is determined by a global positioning system.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein said current geographic location of the specific player is determined by a cellular telephone network.
18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said second communication link comprises a cellular telephone call.
19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said personal information regarding said specific player comprises one or more visual images of the specific player ~~transmitted~~ received via said cellular telephone call.
20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein at least one of said one or more visual images of the player is taken by a camera built into a cellular phone used for said cellular telephone call.
21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, further including the subsequently repeated steps of:
- ~~obtaining~~ receiving, at said one or more servers, an updated visual image of the specific player via a cellular telephone call;
 - transmitting said updated visual image from said one or more servers to said player authentication center;
 - receiving verification at said one or more servers from said player authentication center when said updated visual image is acceptable; and
 - ~~verifying that said updated visual image of the specific player is adequate according to at least one of said one or more acceptable criteria; and~~
 - permitting, when said updated visual image is verified, said at least one particular gaming event to continue on said remote gaming terminal.
22. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said personal information regarding said specific player comprises one or more voice samples of the specific player.

23. (Currently Amended) A remote gaming system configured for accepting wagers and granting monetary awards at a remote gaming terminal, comprising:
- an electronic device configured to provide and to control one or more gaming events;
 - a logic device configured to determine when player verification is required;
 - a first communication device configured to communicate with ~~the~~ said remote gaming terminal via a first communication link and to provide at least one of said one or more gaming events at said remote gaming terminal;
 - a second communication device configured to communicate with ~~the~~ said remote gaming terminal via a second communication link, said second communication link configured to use a different communication medium than ~~being separate from~~ said first communication link, and to obtain personal information regarding a specific player at said remote gaming terminal during or immediately prior to the play of a wager-based game at said remote gaming terminal; and
 - a player verification program configured to verify whether ~~obtained~~ said personal information regarding said specific player is acceptable ~~adequate~~ according to one or more ~~acceptable~~ criteria for verifying the identity or eligibility of a player, wherein said one or more ~~acceptable~~ criteria includes an appropriate age of said player, wherein said player verification program ~~in conjunction with said second communication device receives~~ is configured to receive an authorization signal from a player authentication center operated by a third party, the third party being separate from an operator of the remote gaming system.
24. (Cancelled)
25. (Original) The remote gaming system of claim 23, wherein said electronic device comprises a gaming server.
26. (Original) The remote gaming system of claim 23, wherein said electronic device comprises a gaming machine having a master gaming controller.
27. (Currently Amended) The remote gaming system of claim 23, wherein said electronic device is configured to deny the initiation or continuation of a particular gaming event when said

player verification program determines that ~~any obtained~~ said personal information is not acceptable ~~inadequate~~.

28. (Currently Amended) The remote gaming system of claim 23, wherein said player verification program is configured to verify multiple submissions of said personal information regarding said specific player during the progress of or between one or more gaming events.

29. (Currently Amended) The remote gaming system of claim 28, wherein said player verification program is configured to require continuous additional submissions of said personal information regarding said specific player during the progress of or between one or more gaming events.

30. (Original) The remote gaming system of claim 23, wherein said personal information regarding said specific player comprises one or more visual images of the specific player.

31. (Original) The remote gaming system of claim 23, wherein said personal information regarding said specific player comprises one or more voice samples of the specific player.

32. (Original) The remote gaming system of claim 23, wherein said personal information regarding said specific player comprises a current geographic location of the specific player.

33. (Original) The remote gaming system of claim 32, wherein said current geographic location of the specific player is determined by a global positioning system.

34. (Original) The remote gaming system of claim 32, wherein said current geographic location of the specific player is determined by a cellular telephone network.

35. (Previously Presented) The remote gaming system of claim 23, wherein said second communication link comprises a cellular telephone call.

36. (Currently Amended) The remote gaming system of claim 35, wherein said personal information regarding said specific player comprises one or more visual images of the specific player ~~transmitted~~ received via said cellular telephone call and taken by a camera built into the cellular phone used for the cellular telephone call.

37. (Currently Amended) A remote gaming terminal player verification system, comprising:
at least one computer server, said at least one computer server having a player verification program configured to verify ~~whether~~ when personal information regarding a specific player obtained at a remote gaming terminal is ~~adequate~~ acceptable according to one or more ~~acceptable~~ criteria for verifying the identity or eligibility of a player, wherein said one or more ~~acceptable~~ criteria includes an appropriate age of said player, wherein said player verification program ~~receives~~ is configured to receive an authorization signal from a player authentication center operated by a third party, the third party being separate from an operator of the remote gaming system;

a logic device configured to determine when player verification is required;

one or more gaming devices configured to communicate ~~in communication~~ with said at least one computer server, wherein at least one of said one or more gaming devices is further configured to provide and control ~~provides and controls~~ one or more gaming events;

a first communication device, said first communication device configured to communicate with said at least one computer server via a first communication link and to provide at least one of said one or more gaming events at said remote gaming terminal; and

a second communication device, said second communication device configured to communicate with said at least one computer server via a second communication link and to obtain personal information regarding a specific player at said remote gaming terminal during or immediately prior to the play of a wager-based game at said remote gaming terminal, said second communication link using a different communication medium than ~~being different from~~ said first communication link.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Original) The remote gaming terminal player verification system of claim 37, wherein at least one of said one or more gaming devices comprises a gaming machine.

40. (Currently Amended) The remote gaming terminal player verification system of claim 37, wherein said at least one computer server is configured to deny the initiation or continuation of a particular gaming event when said player verification program determines that ~~any obtained~~ said personal information is not acceptable ~~inadequate~~.

41. (Currently Amended) The remote gaming terminal player verification system of claim 37, wherein said player verification program is configured to verify multiple submissions of said personal information regarding said specific player during the progress of or between one or more gaming events.

42. (Previously Presented) The remote gaming terminal player verification system of claim 41, wherein said player verification program is configured to require continuous additional submissions of personal information regarding said specific player during the progress of or between one or more gaming events.

43. (Original) The remote gaming terminal player verification system of claim 37, wherein said personal information regarding said specific player comprises one or more visual images of the specific player.

44. (Original) The remote gaming terminal player verification system of claim 37, wherein said personal information regarding said specific player comprises one or more voice samples of the specific player.

45. (Original) The remote gaming terminal player verification system of claim 37, wherein said personal information regarding said specific player comprises a current geographic location of the specific player.

46. (Original) The remote gaming terminal player verification system of claim 45, wherein said current geographic location of the specific player is determined by a global positioning system.

47. (Original) The remote gaming terminal player verification system of claim 45, wherein said current geographic location of the specific player is determined by a cellular telephone network.

48. (Previously Presented) The remote gaming terminal player verification system of claim 37, wherein said second communication link comprises a cellular telephone call.

49. (Currently Amended) The remote gaming terminal player verification system of claim 48, wherein said personal information regarding said specific player comprises one or more visual images of the specific player ~~transmitted~~ received via said cellular telephone call and taken by a camera built into the cellular phone used for the cellular telephone call.

50. (Original) The remote gaming terminal player verification system of claim 37, further comprising:

at least one database, said at least one database containing specific personal information data with respect to a plurality of players.

51. (Previously Presented) The remote gaming terminal player verification system of claim 50, wherein said player verification program is configured to compare personal information regarding a specific player obtained at said remote gaming terminal to specific personal information data corresponding to that specific player that is contained within said at least one database.

52. (Original) The remote gaming terminal player verification system of claim 37, wherein access to a gaming event is denied or restricted with respect to said specific player due to an implemented harm minimization measure.

53. (Previously Presented) The remote gaming terminal player verification system of claim 37, wherein said system is configured to provide one or more harm minimization measures at said remote gaming terminal.

54 - 63. (Canceled)